

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA**

Rae Couch,

Civ. No. 15-2770 (RHK/BRT)

Plaintiff,

v.

NCO Financial Systems, Inc.,

**AMENDED ORDER FOR
SETTLEMENT CONFERENCE**

Defendant.

The above-referenced case is assigned to Judge Richard H. Kyle for trial. A settlement conference will be held on **March 14, 2016, at 9:30 a.m., in Chambers 346, Warren E. Burger Federal Courthouse, 316 North Robert Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101, before the undersigned United States Magistrate Judge. All participants should plan on spending the entire day and evening, if necessary, at this settlement conference.**

Counsel who will actually try the case and each party, armed with full settlement authority, shall be present in person. This means that each party must attend through a person who has the power to change that party's settlement posture during the course of the conference. If the party representative has a limit, or "cap" on his or her authority, this requirement is not satisfied. If individuals are parties to this case, they must be present in person. If a corporation or other collective entity is a party, a duly authorized officer or managing agent of that party shall be present in person. If an insurance company is involved on behalf of any party, a representative of the insurer with the power to pay the policy limits must also attend in person the settlement conference.

In order to encourage the parties to address the issue of settlement on their own, counsel must meet in person with one another on or before **March 4, 2016**, to engage in a full and frank discussion of settlement. If the case does not settle, each attorney shall submit to the undersigned on or before **March 10, 2016**, a confidential letter setting forth (1) the parties' respective settlement positions before the meeting; (2) the parties' respective positions following the meeting; (3) a concise analysis of each remaining liability issue, with citation to relevant authority; (4) a reasoned, itemized computation of each element of the alleged damages, with a concise summary of the testimony of each witness who will testify in support of the damage computations; (5) a reasoned analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of their client's case; and (6) a reasoned analysis justifying their client's last stated settlement position, as well as any additional information believed to be helpful to the process of reaching agreement. If you have case law to support your settlement position, please provide copies of the cases you believe are necessary for Judge Thorson to review prior to the settlement conference. This letter is for the Court's use only and should not be served on opposing counsel. Counsel may fax their confidential settlement letter to chambers at 651-848-1212 or email to thorson_chambers@mnd.uscourts.gov. Failure of any lawyer to submit this letter will result in the settlement conference being rescheduled and the imposition of an appropriate sanction on the attorney whose failure caused the conference to be postponed.

Failure of any party or insurance company to comply with any part of this Order may result in the postponement of the settlement conference and/or imposition of an appropriate sanction on the party, company or attorney who failed to comply.

The parties must inform the Court in the confidential letter to be submitted to the Court before the settlement conference the name and position of the person who will attend the settlement conference with full authority to settle the case.

Date: February 3, 2016

s/ Becky R. Thorson

BECKY R. THORSON

United States Magistrate Judge